

# Centre Mountain Lellum Middle School Parent Advisory Council Q&A Meeting

September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 – 6:30 pm – Spencer Library

## PAC Executive in Attendance

---

Lindsay Case – President  
Sandra Arnold – Vice President

Pam Miller – Treasurer  
Tom Davis – Member at Large  
Leanne Renfrew – Member at Large

## SD62 Invited Guests in Attendance

---

Darren Russell	– Centre Mountain Lellum Principal
Scott Stinson	– Sooke School District Superintendent
Ravi Parmar	– School Board Trustee, SD62 Board Chair
Harold Cull	– Sooke School District Secretary Treasurer
Randy Cobb	– Sooke School District Manager of Transportation

## 1. Welcome and call to order

---

Meeting called to order by Lindsay Case

## 2. Questions and Answers

---

### *Transportation:*

- Registered bus students – morning: students will get on the morning bus at their neighbourhood stop and that bus will get them to their temporary school – PEXSISEN, Spencer, or Dunsmuir. This bus will go to all 3 schools.
- Registered bus students – afternoon: students will get on their bus at their temporary school and that bus will take them to their neighbourhood stop. There will be 3 afternoon buses for each route, one bus at each temporary school. Some routes may be combined – busses will be clearly labeled with route numbers.
- Non bus students will get to PEXSISEN as their families had planned (walking, biking, driving, etc..) and then the grade 6s and 8s will get on clearly marked shuttles to Spencer or Dunsmuir. Grade 7s will stay at PEXSISEN.
- Spencer and Dunsmuir afternoon busses will be running approximately 30 minutes later than schedule that was emailed out – this accounts for the later end time at those schools.

- Early dismissal Fridays at Spencer and Dunsmuir – buses will get students home after early dismissal. (No early dismissal Fridays for students at PEXSISE N).
- No mid-day bus on September 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> half days – busses will be running on full day schedule, not half day schedule. The bus will pick students up in the morning at their neighbourhood (shuttles for those walking to PEXSISE N) or return students to their neighbourhoods at the end of the day. Families will need to plan how students will get to school or home from school mid-day.
- All routes are now finalized, and all route emails have been sent out. If you have not heard from transportation, email [bussing@sd62.bc.ca](mailto:bussing@sd62.bc.ca).

Q: Will there be somewhere for students to lock up their bikes?

A: Yes, there will be temporary bike racks at the bus loop for PEXSISE N.

Q: Is there any room for out-of-catchment students on the busses?

A: Not at this time. However, check back in November when actual numbers on busses will be known.

#### *Construction Delay:*

- Occupancy has not yet been received – primary reasons are that fire suppression not yet in place and windows have not all been received.
- Expected occupancy November 10<sup>th</sup>, with first full day for all students at new school is November 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Darren will share an office at PEXSISE N with Donna (office manager) and he will visit the students at Spencer and Dunsmuir. Darren will be in constant communication with the teams at all 3 temporary schools.
- Pam Gerrits (VP) will have an office at Spencer.
- Glenn Bedard (VP) will have an office at Dunsmuir.

Q: Can students stay at old school?

A: No, staffing has been set at all schools. Students and teachers/EAs will stay together once they move into the new school.

Q: What assurances do we have that November 10<sup>th</sup> is going to be the actual occupancy date?

A: This is the date that the contractors have given the School District. The School District construction team sees no reason that this date isn't accurate.

Q: If the November 10<sup>th</sup> date is pushed back, how much notice will families get and where will students go?

A: Students will stay at their temporary schools if there is another delay.

A: If there is a delay, families will be notified once the construction company notifies the school district. The school district is in contact with the construction company daily.

Q: Will the school be fully ready November 14<sup>th</sup>?

A: Yes. Unlike the original plan of moving in September 6<sup>th</sup> and the first floor not being ready, all of the school will be ready.

Scott Stinson: The district is trying to figure out the best way to get classrooms moved and ready for November 14<sup>th</sup>. One idea is to have students stay home on Wednesday November 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday November 10<sup>th</sup>. This will allow all staff to move classrooms and have them ready for Monday November 14<sup>th</sup>.

If families have feedback, suggestions, please email them in.

#### *Applied Design, Skills, and Technology (ADST/Electives):*

Q: Will students have ADST at their temporary schools?

A: Yes, but it will look different. ADST teachers will come to the classrooms to provide lessons.

- Grade 6 and 7 students will stay with their class for ADST at their temporary schools.
- Grade 8s: 2 classes will be combined and then split into 3 smaller ADST classes at their temporary school.

#### *Band:*

Q: Why can't band 8 students join Dunsmuir band for the first 2 months?

A: Dunsmuir band is full and there is not enough space.

A: Centre Mountain Lellum VP Pam Gerrits is also the band teacher and has and will be checking in with all band students to ensure that the band program is ready to go in November.

#### *Gym:*

- Students at Spencer and Dunsmuir will have some inside gym time, but most gym classes are held outside in the fall.
- Students at PEXSISEN will have access to the outside turf at Centre Mountain Lellum.

### *Sports Teams:*

- Darren has been working with Spencer and Dunsmuir to have Centre Mountain Lellum students included in all team sports while at temporary schools.
- Centre Mountain Lellum will have a team for cross country – wearing Centre Mountain Lellum jerseys.

### *Integrated Support, Learning Support, Counselling:*

- All supports that would have been in place at the new school will be in place at the temporary schools.
- Centre Mountain Lellum staff in these departments will be distributed to temporary locations based on needs of students.
- Students will have access to EAs, learning support, counsellors.
- EAs will stay with their classes once the new location is open.

Q: Will IEP and learning assessments still happen?

A: Yes, everything that would have been done at the new location will be done at the temporary locations.

### *Safe Paths to school:*

- There will be a crossing guard at Constellation Avenue where it meets Westshore Parkway.
- There are pedestrian controlled crosswalks at the Westshore Parkway/Langford Parkway roundabout, and at the crosswalk above the schools' driveways on Constellation Avenue.

Q: Will there be paths from Willway and Kettle Creek areas?

A: Not yet. The district is working with the City of Langford. The school district doesn't own the property, it belongs to the City of Langford and the Railway Corridor.

Q: Will the areas around the roundabouts be school zones?

A: Constellation Avenue will be the school zone. The City of Langford has already painted the road to reflect this.

Q: Will the RCMP be out to remind drivers of the new school zone?

A: RCMP will be out at all schools to remind drivers to follow school zone speed limits and to not pass busses with red lights flashing.

*Additional questions and answers:*

Q: How is the district planning on addressing food insecurity while students are at their temporary schools?

A: The Ministry of Education has just announced \$60 million towards helping with inflationary cost worries. The district is working on a plan on how to ensure these funds help those it is targeted for.

Q: How will international students be supported?

A: The school district's International Program supports newcomers to Canada. Each school offers English Language Learners (ELL) teachers.

Q: Will students bring supplies to school on the first day?

A: No, but something to write with would be helpful.

A: Teachers will let students know when to bring supplies to school.

All students at Spencer and Dunsmuir will have access to lockers to store their belongings. Lockers will either be in their portable or very close by.

Students at PEXSISEN will have cubbies to store their belongings. 4 divisions will be in classrooms, 1 will be in the multipurpose room and 1 will be in the library. These 2 locations don't have cubbies, but cubbies have been bought for these temporary locations.

Q: Will hot lunches be available to students?

A: If the temporary school offers hot lunch/food options, then our students will be able to participate.

Q: How will the new school build school community when spread across 3 locations?

A: The leadership team has been working together to create a plan.

A: The plan is for the grade 7s to team up with the grade 5s at PEXSISEN to build a relationship for when the students move up to grade 6/8.

Q: Will there be daycare and before/after school care?

A: PEXSISEN offers daycare and before/after school care for elementary students.

A: For those families whose plan was to have their middle school sibling watch the elementary school sibling after school, the district has extra supervision after school to watch the elementary students until their sibling arrives on the shuttle from Spencer or Dunsmuir.

Q: How will the school ensure that drugs aren't brought in?

A: Elementary and Middle schools are closed campus – students aren't allowed to leave without a family member once they arrive at school. Admin is on top of people on the premises and what is happening at schools.

Q: Where do students go on day 1?

A: Darren will be at the bus/shuttle loop at PEXSISEN to help the grade 6 and 8s get on their shuttles.

A: Staff will be on the fields at the temporary schools to help students find their new classes:

- grade 6 – side field at Spencer
- grade 7 – field at PEXSISEN
- grade 8 – back field at Dunsmuir

Q: How many students will be at Centre Mountain Lellum?

A: About 500 students:

- grade 6: 220
- grade 7: 145
- grade 8: 135

### 3. Additional Business

---

The PAC secretary position has become available. If you are interested in this role, please email PAC at [centremountainlellumpac@gmail.com](mailto:centremountainlellumpac@gmail.com).

All parents and guardians are encouraged to attend PAC meetings.

We will be voting on the PAC Constitution and Bylaws at the September meeting.

### 4. Next Meeting

---

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday September 27<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm at Spencer Library.

Meeting adjourned.